

## MIDDLEWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Middlewich Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of placing before you my third Annual Report, being a report on the Health of your Town for the year ended 31st December, 1941. The Ministry of Health has asked that this report should be confined to essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1941.

SECTION A.STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	.. .. .	1,956 acres.
Population -- Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	.. .. .	6,435.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1941)	.. .. .	1,751.
Rateable value	.. .. .	£26,326.
Sum represented by a penny rate	.. .. .	£101.18.0d.

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	(Legitimate	113	52	61)	Birth rate per 1,000 of
	(Illegitimate	4	2	2)	the estimated resident
					population .. 18.18.
Stillbirths	(Legitimate	4	3	1)	Rate per 1,000 total
	(Illegitimate	-	-	-)	(live and still)
					births .. .. 33.05.
Deaths		69	34	35	Death rate per 1,000 of
					the estimated resident
					population .. 10.72.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	-
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	Nil.	-
Total	Nil.	-

Death rate of infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	.. .. .	58.82.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.. .. .	60.86.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.. .. .	-
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.. .. .	10.
" " Measles (all ages)	.. .. .	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	.. .. .	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.. .. .	-

	M.	F.	Total.
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	1	1
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
8. Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-
9. Influenza	1	2	3
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Ac:polio-myel: & polio-enceph:	-	-	-
12. Ac: inf: enceph:	-	-	-
13. Cancer of b:cav: & oesoph: (M). uterus (F).	-	-	-
14. Cancer of stomach or duodenum	1	1	2
15. Cancer of Breast	-	1	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	3	4	7
17. Diabetes	-	-	-
18. Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	7	4	11
19. Heart Diseases	10	12	22
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	1	1
21. Bronchitis	2	2	4
22. Pneumonia	1	-	1
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	-
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis	-	-	-
27. Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-
28. Nephritis	2	-	2
29. Puerperal & post-abortion: sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other maternal causes	-	-	-
31. Premature Birth	3	1	4
32. Congenital Debility & Malformations	1	1	2
33. Suicide	-	-	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents	-	1	1
35. Other Violent Causes	1	-	1
36. All other causes	1	4	5
Totals	34	35	69

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

SECTION C.

Water - The satisfactory quality of the water supply to all parts of the area has been proved by the examination of samples. A chlorination plant has been provided in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health and was working by the middle of 1941.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. - There is nothing to add to last year's report.

Closet Accommodation. - There is no change to report under this heading.

Public Cleansing. - The routine work of refuse collection and disposal and the cleansing of pail closets etc. proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year.



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.SANITARY OFFICERS' (OUTSIDE LONDON) REGULATIONS, 1935ARTICLE 27 (18).Statement of Inspections made and Notices issued.

Nature of Inspections made	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results of Services of Notices	
		Statutory	Informal	Notice complied with	Remaining in hand
1. Dwelling Houses	95	-	3	3	-
2. Tents, Vans & Sheds	10	-	4	4	-
3. Courts, Yards & Passages	40	-	8	8	-
4. Pail and Privy Closets	52	-	3	3	-
5. Water Closets	909	-	10	10	-
6. Ashbins, Ashpits & Disposal	825	-	16	16	-
7. House Drainage	25	-	3	3	-
8. Ditches & Watercourses	40	-	2	2	-
9. Keeping of Animals	45	-	6	5	1
10. Slaughterhouses	35	-	-	-	-
11. Inspection of Food	360	-	7	7	-
12. Piggeries	40	-	5	4	1
13. Dairies & Milkshops	104	-	6	5	1
14. Factories & Workshops	95	-	2	2	-
15. Bakehouses	120	-	3	3	-
16. Offensive Trades	90	-	-	-	-
17. Overcrowding	10	-	2	2	-
18. Infectious Diseases	87	-	-	-	-
19. Miscellaneous	27	-	1	1	-
TOTALS	3,009	-	81	78	3

FACTORIES INSPECTION.

Premises	No. of inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	20	1	-
Factories without mechanical power	40	2	-
Other premises	35	2	-
	95	5	-

All factories were kept free of nuisance, emergency exits kept clear; all factories and workshops use the Town's water for drinking and washing purposes.

SECTION D. - HOUSING.

Difficulty has been present all the year in the repairing of houses and only the most important repairs have been carried out.

Housing Acts, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

There was some overcrowding owing to the influx of new labour, but cases were carefully watched and in some instances other arrangements were made in consultation with the Billeting Officer.

SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply - The milk supply during the year has been well maintained. The quality on the whole was very good.

(b) Meat and other Foods - No slaughtering of animals has taken place in the area.

No cases under the Diseases of Animals Act were notified during the year.

All slaughterhouses have been kept clean and in good repair.

SECTION F.PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(1) No special comment is called for as the Town experienced no serious outbreak of any notifiable disease.

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis),  
during the year 1941.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	6	6	-
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-
Pneumonia	3	-	1
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Measles	9	-	-
Whooping Cough	25	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-

The beginning of the year saw the commencement of a successful "drive", jointly with the other three Mid-Cheshire Local Authorities, against Diphtheria. Such good progress was made that by the end of the year 915 children under 15 years of age had received a full course of protective treatment. The actual percentages of protected children by the end of the year were:-

under 5 years .. .. 32.78 per cent.  
between 5-15 years .. .. 76.91 " "

It would be remiss of me not to express my full appreciation of the excellent assistance given during the year by all the local Medical Practitioners and the Teachers throughout the District. Their help has, without doubt, contributed materially to the success of the Scheme.

Specimens submitted for Bacteriological Examination.

Examined for	Number submitted	Result	
		Positive	Negative
Diphtheria Bacilli	55	3	52

(2) TUBERCULOSIS. The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 35 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	2	2	-	1	-	-

Number of patients on register at 31st December, 1940 - 42.  
Number of patients on register at 31st December, 1941 - 46.



(3) SCABIES AND VERMINOUS INFESTATION.

The Ministry of Health's Scabies Order 1941, received in November of that year, was given careful consideration by the Council and, as a result of arrangements made jointly with the other Mid-Cheshire Local Authorities, 4 Cleansing Centres were set up promptly in the joint area and cleansing work started in January, 1942.

The practice of home disinfection in cases of Infectious Diseases (including Tuberculosis) and the eradication of vermin was continued during the year. All the Schools in the Town were disinfected at least once during the year and 18 houses were disinfested for the purpose of eradicating vermin.

I would like to say in closing this report how much I appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1942.

